

Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

SECOND TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 1898

FLAG DAY CEREMONY.

The indignation of many persons regarding the arrangement of the ceremonies connected with the visible transfer of the sovereignty of the Islands, on Friday, requires that some explanation be made.

It is this, we understand, although we have no official knowledge on the matter:

The Cabinet at no time, and this only is positive information, previous to the arrival of Admiral Miller, made any promises directly or indirectly regarding the form of the ceremonies. It could not. The taking of possession of the Islands is an affair of the United States Government, to be executed in its own way, and by its own officers, and not by the officers of our Government.

On the arrival of the Admiral, his instructions, and the instructions to Minister Sewall undoubtedly directed how the transfer should be made. The Admiral and the Minister being in the habit of obeying orders, have undertaken to execute these instructions. We do not know what they are. Whatever is done on Friday, will be done, we assume, in accordance with these instructions.

The arrangements may not suit us, but if they are the President's orders, they must be obeyed. He may not have taken the same view of the proper form of the ceremonies that we do. He may have regarded the transfer as a simple, brief, dignified affair which should not be attended with any elaborate ceremonial not necessary or in his opinion, appropriate.

Our Government, the Islands being already annexed, is subject to the Government of the United States, and naturally, has no authority in the matter, and could make no binding promises about it, as any sensible person may readily understand.

We would expect that any ceremony not strictly connected with the act of transfer might lay all the officials open to censure by the Government at Washington.

As free and enlightened citizens we are at liberty to celebrate the event, independently of the official ceremony.

THE RETAIL TRADE.

One of the largest grocery houses in San Francisco declared, some months ago, that whenever annexation took place, it would establish a branch store in Honolulu, and sell its articles at San Francisco prices only. It is also said that other mercantile houses will take the same course.

What will take place is now a mere matter of speculation. It is probable that there will be some radical changes as soon as the laws governing this territory are passed by Congress.

Heretofore it has been difficult and practically impossible for residents to deal generally with the retail merchants of San Francisco, or of other cities. The expense of invoices, the engagement of freights, and necessity of obtaining permits here, the valuation of articles imported even through the postoffice, have caused annoyance, loss of time and expense.

Under the new conditions, articles will be sent from the Mainland to this place with the same care, as they are sent from San Francisco to Oakland. No invoices that must be sworn to, no valuations whatever, no permits to land, will be needed. Articles will also be brought through the mails without examination. We learn that Wells, Fargo & Co. will soon establish a branch of their express concern here. Besides this, local expresses will be started, which will compete with the larger express company, if its charges are excessive.

It is possible that one or more of the department stores may establish branches here. These stores, purchasing at reduced prices great quantities of goods, will sell at close profits here.

The day of the "drummer" has come. We have now the military drummer. He will be followed by the commercial drummer. Our local laws which discriminate against foreign agents of mercantile houses, are even now unconstitutional, under many decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, as such local laws interfere with the rights of citizens of other States. Besides this Congress will not pass any law limiting the freedom of trade. The drummer will seek the Asiatic trade, and so far as he can do so, will put the Asiatic merchants, with good credit, on a par with the merchants here in the markets of the Mainland.

It does not follow that our local merchants will be driven out of trade. They will be forced to meet sharp

competition, and they should be able to meet it. No doubt they will do so. It will be the survival of the fittest.

PARTY GOVERNMENT IN JAPAN.

Annexation and the war have allowed a most important political event in Japan to escape notice.

Those who are familiar with the attempt of the Emperor and his friends to establish constitutional government during the last ten years, know that the chief obstacle to its success, as it has succeeded in England and our own country, is the absence of political parties, and the activity and influence of personal parties in this administration of the Government. The same absence of political parties, divided on certain distinct principles of government, in France and Italy, especially in France, is thoroughly discussed by Bodley in his treatise on government by party, and Japan is cited as an instance of government of persons, and not of principles.

The racial habit and thought of the Japanese naturally expressed itself in the Government, whatever political name it assumed. As the clan governed before, in a large measure, so the clans, after the creation of the present constitutional government, at once made the administration, not that of a party, but of a clan.

The result has been in many ways unfortunate, although, fortunately for that country, it has not been disastrous, as many predicted it would be.

While one clan was in power, the other clans combined, in the Diet, to drive it out of power, by obstructing legislation. Three times has the Emperor dissolved the Diet, and "gone to the people," as the British say, with no better result than the continuance of personal as against party government. Only the religious veneration of all classes for the Emperor has saved the Empire from civil war.

Count Ito, one of the most enlightened statesmen of the Empire, has firmly believed that the establishment of party government was a political necessity. As the Premier recently, he found that the clans and the men with some personal following were in a majority in the Diet. He boldly adopted, for the first time, the British method of changing the government, by advising the Emperor to call in the opposition and give the administration into its hands. This was done. Count Ito then resigned. For the first time, under the new constitution, there is something of a party administration in the Empire. Although it may soon be driven out of office, it marks the beginning of substantial democratic rule in what was an Oriental despotism only a few years ago.

THE LOUISIANA CONSTITUTION.

The Louisiana Constitutional Convention adjourned recently, after adopting a remarkable and novel provision regarding the right to vote. The object in view was to prevent the negroes from voting.

By the last census there were 119,000 colored male residents of voting age, 130,000 white male residents, and 25,000 foreign born voters in the State.

In order to cut off the negro vote the convention resorted to a curious device. It confers the elective franchise on those whose parents or grand parents were qualified voters in 1867. The negroes, owing to the existence of slavery, were not entitled to vote during that year. This provision, therefore, cuts off their rights to the franchise, unless they can read and write. Few of them can do so. It places the franchise mainly in the hands of the white population.

Some of the best lawyers of the State believe that the provision is constitutional. On the other hand, it is believed by many lawyers in other States, that this provision is in direct conflict with the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution, which is that the right of citizens "to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State, on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

The matter will soon go to the Supreme Court of the United States, and its decision will be of the greatest value in settling the rights of the colored men.

FEAR.

Chas. A. Dana, in his Reminiscences of the Civil War, writes that, as Assistant Secretary of War, he visited General Sheridan, and asked him this question:

"But are you never afraid?" "If I was, I would not be ashamed of it," he said. "If I should follow my natural impulse I should run away always, at the beginning of danger; the men who say they are never afraid in a battle do not tell the truth."

Chorus of "organs"—"Dole must go!"

President McKinley—"Dole will stay!"

THE MISSIONARY'S ACCOUNT.

As Hawaii, at noon, becomes a part of the national domain, the missionary may also present his accounts at the same time with the Christian civilization that sent him here, seventy-eight years ago. Today is a day for balance sheets, for general reckoning, for taking account of stock.

The missionary offered, in 1820, to teach the native rulers, and the *serfs* as well, reading and writing and the rudiments of education. He assumed the responsibility of it. It was his philanthropy and the philanthropy of the people who sent him.

Neither trader, or sailor, or whaler, or merchant shared in that philanthropy. Trader and merchant of those days robbed the Kings and people, debauched the women, and demoralized the men with rum. Even New England, in search of oil, which was gold, set loose her legions of heathen, in the garb of whalers, upon these simple people. The missionary fought the heathenism of his own country as astutely as he fought the heathenism of Polynesia, because it struck at order, virtue and progress. Among his dangerous foes were the descendants of the Puritan, in search of gold in the Pacific, for they threw away their principles before they crossed the equator, and believed the Devil reigned under the Southern Cross. Churches, schools, and good government stood in their way.

The missionary, not in search of gold, opened the schools, and the churches, and patiently taught the Puritan theory of government. He groped greatly in the dark, as all men groped in the dark then, and do now, and will do in the coming ages, until the progress of the world is ended. If his light was dim, it was the dim light of New England, the light of the tall candle, instead of the electric light of modern study and knowledge.

Only men and women who had the time and were filled with devotion to the cause, could discharge the trust they had assumed for American philanthropy. After three-quarters of a century of patient work, ably assisted by those who had a common sympathy with them, they fixed permanently in these Islands a system of education, which has no peer in the tropics. Its defects are the defects of the Anglo-Saxon schools elsewhere. But the system is now a part of the life of the people. It is this that has dispelled the fear of American statesmen that the native population would be a menace to good government, though it might not be in itself sufficient for self government.

The account which the missionary hands in today must be credited with the establishment of the form of good government during a half century, though he could not supply its substance; of the planting of the institutions of civilization here, though he could not maintain them in their integrity.

The true balance sheet may debit him with a want of a certain knowledge and wisdom. But the noblest and wisest philanthropists of their time were equally deficient, just as we, of the later age, see the deficiencies of Cotton Mather and the Puritan.

The result of their works, valuable as it was and is, is still disappointing, when measured by the standards erected by their own hope and enthusiasm. It was not strange that they failed to comprehend the conservative power of the racial habits in mind and morals.

What the value of the assets which are turned over to the American people today, will be in a century, no one can estimate. Another balance, struck off a hundred years from now, will show.

SIDE LIGHTS.

The transfer of sovereignty tomorrow will be conducted with Republican simplicity, and to many will be a solemn event.

But there will be several interesting aspects of the matter, having no connection with the official act. The historians should be in attendance, so as to study the lights and shadows of the scene which will become so important in our local chronicle.

At 12 o'clock noon Mr. Dole, we assume, will experience a sudden and grateful psychological change. At 11:59 he will be, as he has been, a Hawaiian citizen, a son of this volcanic born soil. At 12 o'clock, one minute later, he will become, by a process of legal manipulation, an American citizen. It will be in the nature of a political resurrection. As a "terrestrial body," or Hawaiian, he will instantly sink into the tomb on which is inscribed "back numbers," and lie there with all sorts of reputable and disreputable dead rulers of nations. As a "celestial body" he will be instantly resurrected into an American citizen and chief executive of an American territory. He will at once abandon his Hawaiian traditions, habits and thoughts, and permeate his soul with the current political ideas of the live

Americans, and announce to the correspondents his political creed, whether he is a Republican, Democrat or Populist.

Not the least interesting incident will be when the hour arrives for congratulations, and the solemn procession of Earnest Patriots who fervently believed several days ago that they sealed him up for all time in the "Back Number" mausoleum, approach him and congratulate him on his resurrection, and kindly inform him that now they are quite ready to overlook his "glaring political errors," and that it was only a mistake in the working of the slot that threw out the card which announced "poetic justice" to someone else, and nothing for himself.

The painter, Hitchcock, must not fail to take in the whole effect and reproduce it on canvas.

ANNEXED OR TO BE ANNEXED?

The act of annexation was consummated on July 7th, by the Joint Resolution of Congress, which provides "that the said Hawaiian Islands be, and they are hereby annexed as a part of the territory of the United States, and are subject to the sovereign dominion thereof." If it was not legally consummated on that day, it will be today at 12 o'clock.

While the Joint Resolution regards the act of annexation as instant and final, and there is in it no suggestion of any further act or thing whatsoever to be done, it is the fact, we understand, that the Government in Washington has not formally notified the Government of these Islands of the action of Congress, but will be so today at 12 o'clock. It is assumed, for practical purposes, that the act of annexation, will not be complete without the service of some formal notice on the Executive here, and from that moment the Federal Government assumes all responsibility for the administration of affairs.

The Joint Resolution declares an instant annexation, without any notice of any kind whatsoever. The interpretation put upon it is, however, that it becomes effective only when actual possession is taken.

As the Joint Resolution is very broad and fails to define many important relations, no doubt there will be considerable litigation regarding its scope. The question whether the Islands became a part of the American territory on July 7th or upon August 12th may be an interesting one.

RECRUITING THE ARMY.

Recruiting for the purpose of filling up the regiments under the second call for 75,000 men is proceeding slowly in the States. Only 27,519 men had enlisted towards making up the number required of 37,566, on July 14th. This is rather remarkable, when the enormous population is considered. Men prefer the new organizations to the regiments already in the field, into which they must enter as strangers.

The volunteers regiments in the service are losing scores of young men, who enlisted while under age, and therefore cannot be held to service. The enlistment of minors is an old trick, practiced during the Civil War. It is done by men who expect to obtain commissions and the pay of officers, as soon as they have enlisted the required number of men. The commissions are obtained, the pay begins, and then the minors are discharged by the superior officers or the Courts.

These experiences are teaching the people that if we are to be a warlike people, the volunteer system must be largely modified and the method of putting an army in the field must be put on a business basis.

With the end of the Hawaiian Republic comes the end of that awful apparition of the Diamond Head light house crushing in the skulls of the unsuspecting travelers. It is now certified by two well known and capable experts, Messrs. Klengel and Oederdonk, that the structure is sound and safe. Superintendent Rowell is vindicated. That ferocious monster of shark and eagle, known as the "Guy-ascutus," introduced in these sunlit Islands by Senator McCandless, will now make the lighthouse his roosting place, with his half brother, the eagle who soars at noon today.

The automobile has passed the experimental stage in Paris, and the fashionable women are taking it up as a fad. Carriages and horses are abandoned, while the automobiles bowl along the Champs Elysees and the Bois de Boulogne. It is safe, therefore, to predict that we shall have horseless carriages here within a short time. The objection to them will be their lack of power to climb some of our roads, such as the Pali or the Tantalus roads. Otherwise they will be most useful.

Many of the colored or Afro-American schools, which claim the right to be rated as colleges, are indiscriminately granting degrees to colored lawyers and preachers. At the rate they are granting them, the South will soon have its full quota of negro Doctors of Divinity, and Doctors of Laws.

THE PASSING HOUR.

The echo of Dewey's guns can be heard here today.

It will be today a case of nailing the flag to the masthead.

"You can't lick an American tar," is good enough statement to be preserved.

Anyhow there are no "keep off the grass" signs in the Executive Building Grounds.

It is a happy thing that a man can relieve himself of the memory of a tooth pain.

If any man yells "rubberneck" at the Executive Building grounds on Friday, put him out.

Wheel racing in this town is now about the dearest thing that ever happened that way.

For list of the new officers under the new dispensation, consult the present directory or roster.

There is a good prospect that the American Eagle will do just a bit of screaming soon after 12 m. today.

Like a good many who had "gone before," the soldiers aboard the St. Paul coveted the Honolulu assignment.

The coming occasion presents to some individuals the gloomy opportunity or alternative of being men without country.

One of the evening papers has "bopped" on the Governorship question. The process is nothing new with that particular paper.

Our isolation has at least one compensation at this time. We don't have to struggle with those Spanish names every day in the week.

Perhaps now that the Diamond Head lighthouse matter is presented to public notice, half-baked experting on anything and everything will be practiced less.

The men who think they know how to make a State will be in the foreground a good deal now, but the men who really make a State will work quietly and evenly.

Pent-up State secrets will have full high tide flow at noon today. If skillful forecasting can be depended upon to any extent there will be no remarkable revelations.

It was a rough judge in the rough days of the rough West who once announced or proclaimed in his court that he wanted nothing but silence there, and not too much of that.

Over in Hilo town the citizens took time by the forelock and raised the Stars and Stripes over the Court House so soon as Annexation news was received. And still they call Hilo slow.

The Hilo Herald is out for Minister of Finance Damon for Governor. When the Herald ventures into the field of politics editorially it speaks for a pretty good sized element on the Island of Hawaii.

It seems odd that at this late day some people should just be getting together their views on annexation. They should reserve the mental energy needed in this task to application on future issues.

In these halcyon days of development by leaps and bounds your Uncle Benjamin Franklin Dillingham isn't saying a word, though no individual in the community has a better right to remark "I told you so."

Senator Mason, whose views on State secrecy were given yesterday morning, is the man who voted for the Annexation Joint Resolution because so requested by his Illinois constituents.

The young brawn is just now studying watermanship to the end that the foremost sport of the Islands may be properly exploited on two occasions next month. The Myrtles, Healanis and Lelanis show a noble shell game.

Testimony of a ship's master to the efficiency and industry of the local port or harbor officials is contained in a communication. It is always a pleasure to a newspaper to be the medium of noting deserved commendation.

There is probably ten times more thoughtless expression in Honolulu than in any other town ten times bigger. The preachers would likely be willing to preach about it, but most of the people who need speaking to are seldom seen in church.

That pioneer Republican Club, the one organized at Hilo, is reported to be enjoying a lively growth. Republican clubs thrive that way in most places, but it has been the rule of life up to date that the pioneer rarely reaps the reward of his labors.

Mr. Dressler, representing the San Francisco Examiner here now, saw a hula and reports in his letter that it is harmless and is not "such a much" anyhow. There is nothing yellow about a hula excepting the hula leis. Dressler was gold-bricked in his hula venture.

Statistics on the sugar consumption of the United States tell that Hawaii will have the same market for a long time. Less than one-tenth of the sugar imported into the Mainland comes from these Islands. At best it will take forty years to supplant outside sugar in the United States.

It was so far back as November last that Toru Hoashi, the Japanese Minister to the United States, contributed to Harper's Monthly an article or paper

in which he discussed the relations of his country and the United States notably with reference to the Hawaiian question. Some months before the end of last year Japan had reached the conclusion that the Islands would become American territory.

It does not seem at all likely that any food supplies dangerous to health and even life would be taken aboard one of the United States transports. The officers are not men who deliberately plan murder, even if they seem at times a little blunted to the hardships and sufferings of others.

A hotel keeper in Germany has been convicted and fined on the ground that "by placing a tasteless and offensive wooden fence along one of the finest parts of the roadway he did wound the esthetic feelings of the public," contrary to a statute against gross nuisance. The useless barriers are rapidly disappearing from Honolulu.

If the United States hold the Ladrone Islands, Guam will cease to be a fictitious port. Every year hundreds of vessels wear for Guam without any purpose whatever of calling there. The explanation of failure to do so is to call attention to an old Spanish law forbidding entrance to the harbor without leave from the Spanish Government at Madrid.

WILL MUSTER OUT

Sharpshooters Will Reorganize as Rifle Club.

Unanimous Vote of the Company. Adjournment Dinner to Be Held in Progress Hall.

There was a large and enthusiastic gathering of Sharpshooters at their headquarters last night for the purpose of determining the future status of the organization. Capt. F. S. Dodge presided. The question before the body was whether it should, after annexation, join the regiment as a military company, or muster out and reorganize as a sporting rifle club. Upon motion the latter course proved the unanimous choice of the company.

Therefore, the First Company of Sharpshooters will cease to exist today. The reorganization will take place as soon as convenient, perhaps at once.

It was unanimously decided to give a "stag" dinner in Progress hall next Thursday evening. Mr. Desky kindly donated the place for the purpose. The Sharpshooters have a fund of about \$500 in their treasury, and it was deemed equitable that all present and recent members should enjoy it. This will be the first time the perfect arrangements of Progress hall will have been used for a dinner, and everything will be combined to make the affair as well as possible.

The Sharpshooters have of late years been directly under the President. Prior to 1895, when John Kidwell was captain, it was a part of the military department. Its commanders have been John Kidwell, Frank S. Dodge, W. E. Wall and then Dodge again. The present officers are: Frank S. Dodge, captain; James L. McLean, first lieutenant; John Cassidy, second lieutenant; Sergeants: Dr. N. B. Emerson, J. D. McVeigh, J. B. Gibson, W. E. Wall and J. Marsden. Corporals: A. B. Wood, J. S. McCandless and J. S. Martin.

The Sharpshooters have done excellent service for the Government. From the very first the organization has been strong in personnel and influence. It did good field work in 1895 and its older members were to the fore in 1893. The company has developed some of the best shots in the world. The command has had matches with a number of organizations in the United States and has won every time. It is doubtful if a team of ten or even twenty men could be gotten together anywhere to cope with the Sharpshooters.

The Sick.

Soldiers at the hospitals were getting along last night as well as could be expected. Lieut. Hunt and Private O'Connell, at the Red Cross, are still very ill. Private Smith, at the Queen's hospital, is passing through his critical stage.

Relics Turned Over.

The last of the Monarchical relics were turned over yesterday by Minister King to the Bishop Museum. In the lot was an endless number of spears, decorations, etc. Turning these relics over to the Museum was authorized and instructed by the last Legislature. The idea in doing so was to keep them in the country.

She Likes America.

Mlle. Boegli, the language teacher, formerly of the High School, of this city, is now engaged in the same capacity in Van Ness Seminary in San Francisco. She is charmed with San Francisco in general and the Americans in particular. This is her first visit to the United States, she having circled the globe from her home in Switzerland thus far, by way of India and Australia.

Mlle. Boegli made many friends in Honolulu and has written some interesting letters to them of her impressions of the people whom she has met in the States. One thing, she finds them so obliging. "Not at all like Sydney," she writes, "there, if you ask for information on the street, it is almost invariably, 'Can't say,' but in this city, if the person asked does not possess the requisite information, he will take you to some person or place or directory where you can find it."